



The Potomac Appalachian

The Newsletter of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club
118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180-4609
www.patc.net

Volume 35, Number 9
September 2006

REI Grant Will Help PATC Volunteers With Stone Construction Methods

Kelly Hasty from REI presented a check for \$7,355 (and a box of t-shirts) to Bruce Glendening (PATC Vice President) and Liles Creighton (Supervisor of Trail), at the June Council meeting, to support an effort by the club to expand its expertise in stone construction methods. Kerry Snow and Susan Nelson worked together to prepare the grant proposal leading to this award. The funds were used to purchase a set of hand tools (various hammers, hand drills, wedge/feather sets, etc.) as well as a gasoline-powered hammer-drill. The tools will be used, initially, in a training session coordinated with a project to reconstruct the Mather Side Trail in Harpers Ferry. The Blue and White Crew plans to present a series of workshops to teach the appropriate use and care of the tools, and in the construction methods associated with building and restoring CCC-era cribwalls, and other advanced stonework projects. The workshops will be part of the volunteer training program, which now includes a Basic Trail Volunteer Workshop and a Traditional Tools Workshop. Many thanks to REI for its generous gift to the PATC Trails Program. □

—Kerry Snow



Kelly Hasty from REI presents Bruce Glendening with a grant check to be used to fund our effort to expand our expertise in stone construction methods.



Darwin Lambert (front left), who was the first employee of SNP, and his wife Eileen (right) are pictured above at the dedication of Tulip Tree Cabin. It was Eileen's idea for PATC to further the desire of AT founding father Benton MacKaye to give city people a place to visit that is close to nature. The Lamberts donated the six-acre tract to the club for the cabin and made weekly, and sometimes daily, trips to view its rising. Also pictured, Tom Johnson (sitting at left) and Charlie Graf (standing).

Own Some History

FOR SALE: The Lambert's Place. 55 acres bordering SNP and Tulip Tree Cabin, in secluded mountain hollow. Two acre clearing, part original historic log cabin with spring, running water, electricity, adjoins mountain stream, lots of wildlife. Conservation buyer wanted. One mile from public road, two miles south of US 211, two hours from D.C. area. Call 540/743-7246.

Note: Although this item ran in last month's PA, the phone number given was incorrect. Please note the correct number.

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Council Fire

Vice President - Operations, Bruce Glendening called the regularly scheduled Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) Council Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. on July 11, 2006, at the Club Headquarters. Kelly Hasty from REI presented a check for \$7,355 and also a box of t-shirts to Bruce and Liles Creighton on behalf of PATC, to support Blue and White Crew rock work and rigging crew at Harpers Ferry. Kerry Snow and Susan Nelson worked together to prepare the grant proposal leading to this award. See article on page 1 of this issue.

The PATC member who had sued PATC and Supervisor of Facilities Mel Merritt provided a copy of the paperwork that was filed with the suit along with correspondence about the suit. The first trial lasted 1.5 hours, produced 75 pages of transcript and resulted in a summary judgement in favor of PATC. This presentation was a continuation to the discussion at the June Council meeting.

Council responded favorably to a proposal presented by PATC member and Boy Scouter Rush Williamson for creating a list of potential projects, with points of contact, that Eagle Scout candidates could develop for Eagle projects as well as smaller projects that could be used by younger Scouts for their required service hours for advancement. Rush said he would provide a detailed writeup for ExCom review in a month or so and indicated that he could post this list on the Boy Scout Web site.

Riverbend Books has invited PATC to participate in creating a coffee table book by late-August, for the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce and has engaged a professional photographer to take pictures of Loudoun County trails including the AT, Blackburn, and possibly the Potomac Heritage Trail. Lloyd MacAskill has been asked to provide support to two *USA Today* reporters who are interested in writing an article on the Great Eastern Trail. An Anna Michener cabin renter was thrilled to report that she almost sat on a rattlesnake who rattled at her; neither the snake nor renter was injured.

Bruce announced that ExCom had set Sept. 16 at the Blackburn Trail Center, for a Council offsite meeting. ExCom authorized a letter to VA Governor Kaine supporting the Governor's position on tax credits for 501.c3 organizations. The Governor had changed some of the words in the final law but PATC did not have any details on these changes. ExCom has said that PATC structures, built in the future, will be handicapped accessible in accordance with ATC Accessibility Guidelines; the costs are expected to be minimal. Treasurer Ric Francke credits the Web site cabin availability chart for cabin rentals running ahead of projections.

Trails, Lands, and Facilities

Wes Allen is redesigning the PATC Web site and the drafts are very impressive; he works over the network from Charlottesville. This is the front end of the effort described by

Bruce Glendening in his *Potomac Appalachian* article in August.

Supervisor of Trails Liles Creighton does not expect to know for several weeks the overall water damage done during the June storm.

Supervisor of Land Jim Peterson reported that the Blackburn easement and tax credit sale was progressing and the deed on this land has been signed by the PATC President Tom Johnson and the President of the Land Trust of Virginia and was recorded in Loudoun County on 29 June. Once the certified copies have been filed with the appropriate officials, a tax broker can sell the tax credits.

Supervisor of Facilities Mel Merritt reported that May and June had been very busy for Bears Den with income up 10 percent more than last year (> \$10K per month) and for the first six months this year it is more than 5 percent over projection. Five people (including Rush Williamson) have responded to the *Potomac Appalachian* article asking for volunteers.

Headquarters Chair Eliza Engle is requesting bids to resurface the PATC HQS parking area; the storage bin is being reorganized; and the paint cabinet has been installed in the tool room.

Council approved a financial allocation for \$2,655 to finish Butternut Cabin and another

See Council, page 3

HOW TO CONTACT US: HEADQUARTERS, SALES, CABIN RESERVATIONS, AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Address: 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180

Phone #: 703/242-0315

24-hr. Activities Tape #: 703/242-0965

To receive an information packet: Extension 10

Club President (leave a message), Tom Johnson: Extension 40

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Thursday and Friday 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Facsimile #: 703/242-0968

Club e-mail: info@patc.net

World Wide Web URL: www.patc.net

STAFF: DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS

Director of Administration: Wilson Riley (Ext. 11) e-mail: Wriley@patc.net

Trails Management Coordinator: Heidi Forrest (Ext. 12) e-mail: hforrest@patc.net

Business Manager: Monica Clark (Ext. 15) e-mail: mclark@patc.net

Membership/Cabin Coordinator: Pat Fankhauser (Ext. 17) e-mail: pfankhauser@patc.net

Sales Coordinator: Maureen Estes (Ext. 19) e-mail: mestes@patc.net

Potomac Appalachian

Chief Editor: Linda Shannon-Beaver, PA@patc.net

Features Editor: Joanne Erickson

Forecast Editor: Vince Ferrari, PA-Forecast@patc.net

Club Officers and chairs contact info:

www.patc.net/about/contact.html

or call the main club phone number.

Contact list published twice annually in the *PA*.

Tom's Trail Talk – Major Donors

PATC has benefited from major donors over the years. Many of our assets, in fact, have come from dedicated club members who have included the trail club in their estate planning. Our major benefactors have included Dr. and Mrs. Vos, Cliff Firestone, Phil Stone, Marian Lapp and Katherine Fulkerson. Added together, the contributions of these six people come to \$3,150,000. In each case the donation was made through estate planning. The club simply inherited the assets.

This is a really remarkable record and indicates the very strong attachment that some members have for the club. PATC engenders very strong loyalties and people are willing to give large amounts to help out.

Donations involve more than just dedication to trails – they involve sound financial planning. This process begins with the donor and involves some legal work. The club can advise you about the donation process but



High Acre, donated by Katherine Fulkerson and Marian Lapp.

recommends that you use your own lawyer for the paperwork. So if you are doing estate planning, don't forget PATC. Contact our

grants and donations chairperson, Susan Nelson, (warnelson@aol.com). □

—Tom Johnson

Council, from page 2

er \$2,500 to build a cookshed at the Bear Springs Cabin.

Supervisor of Membership Eliza Engle provided the 13 July Monthly Report that indicated that PATC membership was at 6,497, with 91 new members. She also reported that seven new members attended the New members meeting; several were interested in the GIS effort and one of these is a Java programmer. Eliza has found a speaker for the PATC Annual Dinner. PATC member, Robert Kapsch, retired from NPS is the author of "Canals and The Monocacy Aqueduct on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal," and will make a presentation at the PATC annual meeting. See the article on page 8 for more information on the meeting.

Supervisor of Information, Education and Activities Jane Thompson plans to have a booth at the Balloon Festival in October in Millwood, VA.

Around the Room

Great Eastern Trail - Lloyd MacAskill - is conducting reconnaissance between Great North Mountain and Shenandoah Mountain to see how existing parts can be connected together, Tom Johnson is helping with this.

AT Corridor Monitoring - Tom Lupp - is meeting on 7/18 at Greenbrier State Park, DNR is still interested in opening some adjoining land for hunting.

Ski Touring - Steve Bergstrom - is planning a trip to Yellowstone in February.

Publications - Alex McLellan - The new "AT Trail Guide in Shenandoah National Park" had a serious setback when the person working on it couldn't continue; plans now are to reprint the current edition.

SMRG - Alex McLellan - reported a number of searches, recovering people, swimming in flood, 12 year-old girl (murdered), large search in Green County, Penn., 108 hrs, SMRG has moved all its stuff to a trailer; still looking a location to park the trailer.

PATC needs an Archivist/Librarian - please contact Alan Day (dayalan@nova.org) if interested. The club also needs a Marketing Committee Chair; the committee has the potential of significantly increasing PATC revenue by active promotion of PATC-logoed items at points of sale. Please contact Lee Shaeffer (thumpers@visuallink.com). □

—Alan Day, Secretary

The Register
The Online Newsletter for the Appalachian Trail

ATC's Online Volunteer Newsletter: The Register

The Register, the online newsletter of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, is published quarterly by ATC for the volunteer stewards of the Trail and its corridor, their federal and state agency partners, and others interested in the stewardship of the Trail. To be notified when a new issue is posted, please send an e-mail to: TheRegister@appalachiantrail.org with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line and your first and last name in the body of the e-mail. The current issue can be seen by clicking on The Register link on ATC's home page at www.appalachiantrail.org. □

—Susan Daniels,
Conservation Coordinator,
Appalachian Trail Conservancy



Hiker's Notebook

Common Name: Queen Anne's Lace, Wild Carrot, Birds' Nest

Scientific Name: *Daucus carota* (from *daukos* which is what the Greeks called plants of the umbrel family, deriving from *daio*, to overheat; *carota* is Latin for carrot)

Potpourri: Queen Anne's Lace is also known as wild carrot because that is what it is, according to a preponderance of references. Webster's dictionary defines "carrot" as "an inedible biennial plant (*Daucus carota*) of the umbel family, with fernlike leaves and compound umbels of white flowers, usually with one red flower in the center." The edible orange root we call carrot is a cultivar of *D. carota* known as *variation sativa*.

The etymology of Queen Anne's Lace has not been definitively established, though a number of plausible sources compete for credibility. The most well known is that Queen Anne of England (1702-1714) pricked her finger while making lace and stained the lace with blood, this being the origin of the red to purple dot in the center of the many white florets. Another legend has it that it is named for Saint Anne, the mother of the Virgin Mary and the patron saint of lace makers. A more mundane and probable theory is that the flower reminded the British of Queen Anne's headdress, as she favored lace.

The seeds of Queen Anne's Lace have been used as a contraceptive by women for centuries. Recent research with mice has confirmed that the volatile oils of the seeds block the formation of progesterone, essential for the uterine wall to receive the egg.

—William Needham

Visit the Hiker's Notebook Web site at:
www.mwrop.org/W_Needham/h_notebook.html

Member Notice: Nomination and Election Rules

On Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2006, PATC members will elect officers to the PATC Executive Committee. Look in the October *Potomac Appalachian* for the names of persons recommended by the Nominating Committee. Elected officers will serve for two years starting Jan. 1, 2007. Members in good standing may vote either in person, at the annual meeting, or by absentee ballot. Those wishing to vote by absentee ballot must request a ballot in writing, and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. In order

for absentee ballots to count they must be received at the Club Headquarters in Vienna no later than 5:00 p.m. on Nov. 14, 2006.

Nominations other than those proposed by the Nominating Committee may be made by petition. For instructions on this procedure, contact Wilson Riley, Director of Administration, at the Club Headquarters. Nominations will not be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. □

Absentee Ballot Request

Please send me an absentee ballot for the November PATC officer election. I understand that this ballot must be returned to PATC Headquarters by 5:00 p.m. Nov. 14, 2006.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Mail to: Wilson Riley, Director of Administration, PATC Headquarters, 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180.

DON T FORGET: Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with this form.

* To vote in this election you must either attend the Annual Meeting (paid registration not required) or request, by mail, an absentee ballot and return it to HQ either by mail or in person by 5:00 p.m. on Nov. 14.



Check Out the New Volunteers Ride Board

For those of us who maintain trail sections in SNP, the Blue and White Crew has a ride-sharing service on our Web site: www.blueandwhitecrew.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=12&sid=c6c2f81cb0d7540c78c05808a363acb5, or go to www.blueandwhitecrew.org/forum and click on Ride Board.

It hasn't gotten much use yet, but perhaps as prices go higher we'll see more action. The Ride Board is intended for any volunteers heading to the Park (not just crew members or Central District overseers). Please feel free to spread the word.

—Kerry Snow

We Would Miss This Overseer

From July 1999 to April 2003 Chris Jones was the Overseer of Jones Mountain Trail from the Staunton River Trail to Bear Church Rock including the Cabin Spur from Jones Mountain Trail to (Harvey Nichols) Jones Mountain Cabin. All 3 miles of it. Not including the two-mile hike from the parking lot up the Staunton River Trail just to get to our trailhead. Co-Overseers were Mason Child and Bob Holm. Hard to forget something requiring four years of sweat and toil. Is there a tougher first assignment in the PATC system? All I know is that when we met with other overseers and told them about our assignment they looked down, chuckled, and asked who we had offended back at PATC HQ. Might have been Mr. Hillon. Anyway, ...

In April 2004 we traded trails with the Laurel Prong Overseer (Melanie Falk & Axel??) The three of us (Chris, Bob, and Mason) and the rest of our crew (The Jones Mountain Boys) currently maintain the Laurel Prong Trail from the AT to Fork Mountain Fire Road. When we have enough gas (petrol and internal fortitude) we throw our backs into Cat Knob and parts of the adjoining AT.

July 1999 to July 2006 makes seven full years. During that time I also volunteered once or twice each year on Tom Jorgensen's cabin crew as the cook. While we may cook at a cabin, trail folks don't do cabin work. It's an ego thing!

Looks like we will be swapping trails again and moving on to Entry Run Trail. Apparently Steve Paul needs a slow witted crew willing to fight the bears, copperheads, ticks, and wasps for trail access rights. After Jones Mountain and Laurel Prong, the demented "Jones Mountain Boys" are perfect for the job! ☐

—Chris Jones, *Durus iugosus semita*, (enduring the mountainous footpath)

Emergency Response Training & Trail Patrol Present Basic Wilderness First Aid and CPR and AED

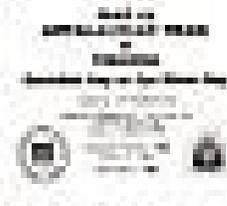
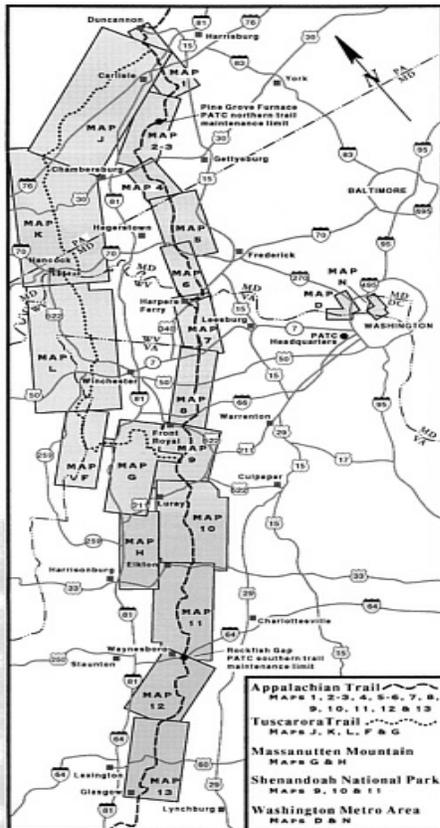
Oct. 28 - 29, 2006

Day one of this two-day class covers Adult CPR and AED and American Heart Association First Aid. You will receive a textbook and a certification card good for two years. Day two is American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI) Basic Wilderness First Aid. You will learn how to do patient assessments, bleeding control, splinting, and other basic first aid skills in the wilderness setting. There is plenty of hands-on time and paramedics with years of backcountry experience teach the classes.

Cost of the class is \$120 for Trail Patrol Members and \$130 for Non-Trail Patrol members. Pre-Registration is required before Oct. 20, 2006. For more information or to download the registration form, go to www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol.com or contact Saleena DeVore at tp1staid@patc.net or 540/972-8394. ☐

DON'T FORGET:

**Elections are held at the Annual Meeting
on Nov. 14. See bottom of
Absentee Ballot on page 4
for information about voting.**



Map Number 12 10th Edition, 2006

Newly arrived at the PATC store, the newest version of Map 12. This edition has been revised, and is GPS friendly. The price is \$4.80 for PATC members, \$6.00 for non-members. Add Virginia sales tax if applicable. Come by headquarters to save the shipping costs, or purchase this item online. Go to www.patc.net, or call 703/242-0315, ext. 19.

FROM THE PATC STORE



North District SNP Trail Maintainers Workshop

Sept. 23-24, 2006

Mathews Arm Campground

The workshop, sponsored by the North District Hoodlums, in cooperation with SNP, is scheduled for Sept. 23-24 and will be held at Mathews Arm Campground in the North District of SNP. The workshop is designed to teach new and prospective trail maintainers the basic skills as well as provide more advanced training in trail design, construction, and maintenance. Instruction will be provided by SNP trail professionals and PATC crew leaders.

A tent camping loop at Mathews Arm will be reserved for exclusive use by PATC for this weekend event. Participants will have free entry to the Park and campground.

The workshop will begin Saturday morning and end on Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

There is a \$20 registration fee. Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, and a buffet lunch will be provided. Participants are requested to bring their own trail lunches on Saturday.

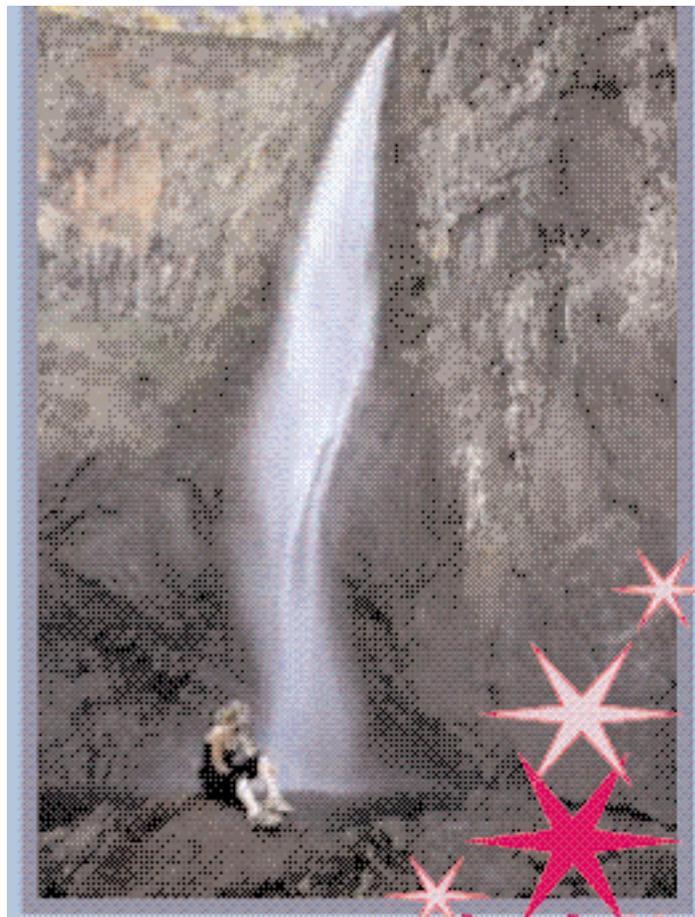
Please make reservations early. The workshop is limited to 25 participants and, in past years, has filled up early. Contact Dick Dugan at rdugan@frontiernet.net, or 304/856-3511 for more information or to make a reservation.

Are You Creative? Like to See Results?



*The Acme
Treadway
Company
is for You!*

Check the Forecast on page 10 or go to www.acmetreadway.net for monthly work trips.



Join American Hiking Society in Commemorating 30 years with a Weekend of Hikes, Trail Work, and Celebration. Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2006 Silver Spring, Maryland

Friday 9/29: Hiker Summit 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration
& Silent Auction

Saturday 9/30: Hikes on the National Mall, Hikes along the
Potomac River, Wine and Cheese reception

Sunday 10/1: Breakfast with American Hiking Staff, Work
Project on a local trail

To Register: Go to www.AmericanHiking.org or call
Andrea Ketchmark @ 301/565-6704 ext. 204

OUR CELEBRATION IS OPEN TO ALL, PASS IT ON!

A Note from President Tom Johnson – PATC was a key organization in founding AHS 30 years ago, and we have played an active role over the years. This event is local, and if you have any interest in national trails advocacy you might want to consider joining this celebration. PATC (Bruce Glendening) will be running a hike on Saturday on the Potomac Heritage Trail. In the interest of full disclosure, I am a member of the AHS Board of Directors.

Birding on the AT

I always appreciated nature, being born to a father who was a Park Ranger in the beautiful state parks of Northern California. Two years ago I focused this appreciation and acquired a newly found respect and admiration of birds, learned this time from my uncle. Many hours in the field later, it has become what I like to consider a “healthy addiction,” leading me to random locations around South Central Pennsylvania and beyond to catch a glimpse of a rare bird. I maintain a list of all the birds I have identified by sight or sound in the current year and in my lifetime. With a week to play with, I would now be starting a new list, the “AT List.”

“What are you looking at?”

I left Pine Grove Furnace State Park on a beautiful Sunday morning, and it didn't take long for a thru-hiker to catch up to me.

“A black-throated green warbler.”

I quickly ran up my tally in the park with its great bird habitat, especially for warblers.

“A what?”

Most of the hikers I would come across were unaware that there were so many different species of birds flying above their heads while they walked.

“I'm watching birds.”

While most call it “watching,” it's really more of a study and true appreciation of birds.

“Really?”

So many of the thru-hikers had the same reaction. They had never met anyone who actually did this.

“Do you know their sounds?”

At first I thought birding was all about seeing them. I quickly learned that hearing them was just as important to correctly identify them.

“Many of them, but I'm still learning.”

The true bird experts are uncanny with their knowledge of birdcalls. This is made even more difficult as many birds hold primary and alternate songs, as well as their regular, flight and distress calls.

“I keep hearing what sounds like a motorcycle starting, but there aren't any roads. Is that a bird?”

Just about every thru-hiker I met asked me a variety of questions about what they had seen or heard. In this case, the hiker was excited to hear about how the ruffed grouse makes that drumming sound.

“Do you mind if I hike with you for a while?”

The thru-hikers had recognized after completing 1,000+ miles that there was more to the trail than just hiking. This was an added dimension to their experience that had already brought them so many new perspectives.

“Not at all, as long as you don't mind stopping regularly.”

I planned to take my time to bird rather than push the miles, while many of the thru-hikers spoke of 30-mile days without emotion.

“What's your name?”

I knew the thru-hikers had “trail names,” but I wasn't sure if a “section hiker” like me should.

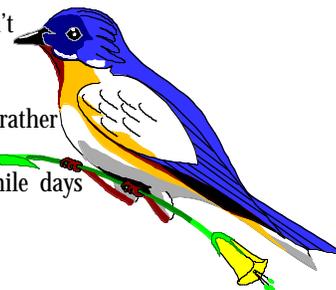
“Mik”

I had thought about what my trail name should be, from a specific bird to many other silly ideas.

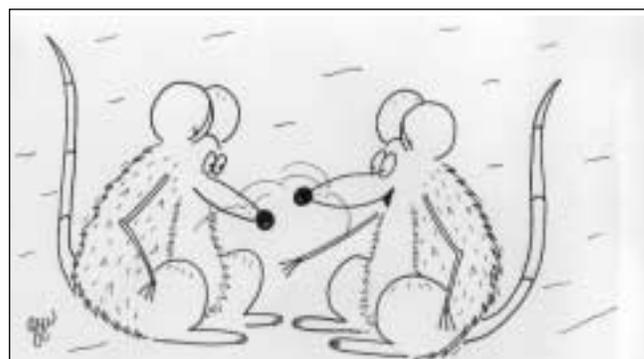
“Well I'm ‘Dead Bear,’ and I'm giving you a trail name. You're ‘Birdman!’”

Thus an incredible week began. I completed 80 miles of the trail, finishing my week at Swatara Creek in Swatara State Park. I had identified 98 bird species from the trail, including a number to add to my year and life list. More than anything else though, I was pleasantly surprised how willing the thru-hikers were to take me into their social circle and make me feel like one of them. I found their attitudes refreshing, even when faced with adversity. They embraced my often-laughed-at “bird watching,” and even entertained me with their stories of being charged by a wild turkey or led up the trail by a northern bobwhite. While I may have taught them about birds, I walked out of the woods after seven days feeling like in some way I learned more from them. □

—Miklos Oylar



TAILS FROM THE WOODS by George Walters



“WHY AN A.T. SHELTER?... YOU'RE RIGHT KYLE, IT'S COLD AS HADES IN WINTER... BUT FOR 6 MONTHS OF THE YEAR, WE EAT LIKE KINGS!!”

79th Annual Club Dinner and Meeting - November 14 at the Atrium

Come out and join in the fun to our 79th Annual Meeting/Dinner! Mark your calendar now and sign up for PATC's 2006 Annual Meeting/Dinner on Tuesday, Nov. 14 in Vienna to celebrate our 79th year. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a social gathering including a beer and wine cash bar followed by a buffet-style dinner. The cost is \$35 per person in advance and \$45 at the door (children \$20). The event will be held again this year at the beautiful Atrium of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority located next to the Meadowlark Botanical Gardens on Beulah Road in Vienna.

Our speaker this year will be Robert Kapsch, retired NPS Senior Scholar in Historic Architecture and Engineering. The author of "Canals and The Monacacy Aqueduct on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal," he will be giving a presentation on the lost and forgotten engineering achievements of the C&O Canal. There will be displays from

various committees featuring their activities. When you look them over, you just may find a new volunteer interest.

The Atrium is located next to the Meadowlark Gardens at 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court just off Beulah Road, Vienna, VA. Take I-495 to Northern Virginia to the Vienna/Tyson's Corner/Rte. 123 exit. From Rte. 123, turn right onto Courthouse Road. Then go through the stop sign and continue on Beulah Road. The Gardens are on the left. Shuttle service will be available at 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Vienna Metro station. Please call Pat Fankhauser at 703/242-0693, Ext. 17 if you will be using the shuttle service OR if you can volunteer to be the driver for this service.

Reserve your seat by completing and mailing the attached form no later than Nov. 1, 2006. Space is limited. As always, we will need a lot of volunteers to help coordinate a successful event. If interested please contact Pat Fankhauser at 703/242-0693, Ext. 17 or pfankhauser@patc.net ☐

Registration for PATC's 79th Annual Meeting/Dinner

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's Atrium at Meadowlark Gardens. For more information, please contact Pat Fankhauser at 703/242-0315, Ext. 17, or pfankhauser@patc.net. Don't delay, space is limited. Come on out to help us celebrate 79 years!

Name: _____, entre preference (choose one)

vegetarian chicken beef

Name: _____, entre preference (choose one)

vegetarian chicken beef

Daytime phone number: _____

Please enclose a check in the amount of \$35 (or list your credit card information below) per attendee for dinner, \$20 for children 14 and under. If you wish to attend the meeting and not have dinner, please contact Pat Fankhauser and let her know you will be coming.

() Here is an additional \$79 ...for the Trail Land Acquisition Fund for 79 years of service on the trails.

() Sorry, I can't attend the banquet, but here is \$79 to support PATC's Trail Land Acquisition Fund.

For 79 years PATC has led hikes; constructed and renovated shelters and cabins; mapped the trails; taught trail construction, safety, and conservation; and built and cleared the trails in rain, snow, and sunshine. Your contribution will be used to enhance those activities. Let's celebrate as we move into our 80th year!

VISA/MasterCard Number: _____, Expiration Date: _____ Please charge my credit card for _____ for _____ dinner(s)

Signature: _____

Mail to: PATC - Annual Meeting/Dinner 2006, 118 Park Street, SE, Vienna, Virginia 22180 Attn: Pat Fankhauser, Membership Coordinator
Because PATC pays for dinners in advance, no refunds after Nov. 1, 2006.

Volunteers Appointed in July

Trail Overseers

David Beers AT - Swift Run Gap to Hightop Parking Area

Claire Whitenack Gap Run Trail - Intersection of Rocky Mt. Trail to Rte. 628 Access Trail, & Rocky Mount Trail - Summit of Rocky Mt. to Junction of Gap Run Trail

Shelter Overseers

Carol Tolbert Pinefield Hut

Tami and Terry Casey Blackrock Hut



Volunteer Work Crew Opportunities Massarock Crew – September Crews

PATC, in conjunction with George Washington National Forest, will sponsor volunteer work crews during September of 2006. No past experience is necessary. Trail Crew Staff will work with the crew and guide members through maintenance procedures for trail erosion, brush removal, blowdown removal, sidehill construction and treadwork. All of the necessary instruction and tools will be provided as well as meals and tent site. Crewmembers are needed the weeks of Sept. 10 and Sept. 17. Volunteers may sign up for one or more weeks if they have previous experience. For further information, contact Heidi Forrest (hforrest@patc.net) the Trail Management Coordinator, at PATC Headquarters during the day, 703/242-0693 ext.12, or visit the PATC Web Page at www.patc.net. ☐

Service Awards: Do You Know a Worthy Recipient?

Honorary Life Membership Awards

At the annual meeting on Nov. 14, 2006, PATC will recognize a few members for their outstanding and wide-ranging commitment to the club over an extended period. They will be awarded an Honorary Life Membership Award. Please nominate any member you think deserving of this award, including the nominee's name and a clear description of his or her contribution that justifies this award. Nominees must:

1. Be long-time club members.
2. Exemplify the service aims of the club. ("Service" includes leading trips, serving on committees or Council, serving as overseer, donating time at Headquarters, etc.)
3. Have contributed to the club across a broad range of service activities.
4. Have generated enthusiasm and inspired others to become active in the club.

The Myron Avery Award

Formerly known as The Volunteer of the Year Award, this award was renamed to honor the co-founder of PATC and the driving force behind the completion of the AT and is given at the annual meeting to that PATC member who most exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism through his or her contribution to PATC during the past year. This is the highest honor bestowed upon members of the club and is awarded to the PATC volunteer who most exemplifies Mr. Avery's dedication and devotion to PATC's mission. The contribution can be to any type or combination of club service activities, e.g., devoting many hours above and beyond the norm to service activities, including travel time, or making an exceptional contribution to a particular project. (Members of the Executive Committee are not eligible for the award.) If any PATC member believes another member should be recognized as the recipient of the Myron Avery Award, please nominate him or her. Include the nominee's name and a clear description of his or her contribution that justifies the award. Include your name and phone number and e-mail address.

Nominations for Honorary Life Memberships and Myron Avery Award must be received at Club Headquarters no later than Oct. 20, 2006. Send nominations by mail (PATC, 118 Park St. SE, Vienna, VA 22180), e-mail (Wriley@PATC.net), or fax (703/242-

0968). Mark nominations Attn: Lee Scheaffer, Vice President for Volunteerism. If you have questions, call Wilson Riley, 703/242-0693, ext. 11.

Service Awards

Service awards are given to club members who have consistently devoted time and effort to club service activities above and beyond the norm. Volunteer leaders who want to recognize those with whom they work should send their lists of service award recipients to PATC Headquarters, via mail, fax, or e-mail (pfankhauser@patc.net), marked Attn: Nominations. Include names of the recipients and a short description for each of their service activities. Nominations should be received no later than Oct. 30, 2006.

Other Types of Service Awards:

□ *PATC Appreciation Award.* Primarily for nonmembers, this award is given to individuals who have made some special contribution to the club and its objectives. Recipients could include government officials (federal, state, local) who have assisted the club in its activities, individuals who have donated land or facilities to the club, retired PATC employees, or anyone else who has helped the club in a significant way.

□ *Youth Under 14.* Individuals who have participated in club worktrips or other activities while they were under 14 years of age are eligible for special recognition. Upon the recommendation of an adult member, a letter of appreciation, along with a PATC patch, will be sent to the individual, in appreciation for the contribution to the club's work and offering encouragement to become a PATC member when he or she reaches 18 years of age.

All service award nominations should be submitted to Pat Fankhauser (pfankhauser@patc.net) no later than Oct. 30, 2006. □

Nov. 14, 2006
PATC Annual
Meeting/Dinner

Look for more information in the
October PA.



The Vos Shelter Progress Report

On a very hot weekend in July the following work was completed on the shelter. All of the tongue-and-groove flooring was installed except for two damaged pieces. The board-and-batten siding was installed on the front and rear of the shelter. The fire ring was set in cement in front of the shelter. Caulking was applied to the three sides of the shelter and the screws replaced in the pickets on the front deck. Many thanks to the following people who, I am sure, lost a few pounds in sweat; Dave Goodlin, Paul Westphal, Jason Rainville and John Coffey.

On the next work trip we will finish installing the rest of the flooring, and weather permitting, sand and stain the floor. Then, on to the last major building project – finish digging the outhouse hole and assemble the building on top of it. □

—Henry Horn, Chair, Shelters Committee



Charlottesville Chapter

The Charlottesville Chapter hikes every Saturday; summer, winter, and in between. Hikes are usually 8 to 10 miles with some shorter hikes. We usually maintain trails on the last Saturday of the month. Meet at Albermarle High School in Charlottesville at 9:00 a.m. with food and water for the day. The majority of hikes are in the South and Central Districts of SNP, with some in the North District and in George Washington National Forest. Our Chapter hikes are posted at www.avenue.org/patc/future_hikes.htm. INFO: Jere Bidwell 434/295-2143 or John Shannon 434/293-2953.

North Chapter

The North Chapter of PATC conducts monthly trail work trips on the Maryland and Pennsylvania sections of the AT and on the Pennsylvania sections of the Tuscarora Trail. We also lead hikes on these and other trails. Maryland AT work trips are generally held on the first and third Saturdays – contact Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442 for information. Pennsylvania work trips are generally held on the AT on the first Saturday and on the Tuscarora on the third Saturday – contact Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140. Pennsylvania AT work trips also include an optional Saturday evening dinner at the Gypsy Spring Cabin. For information on upcoming hikes, contact Chris Firme (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/765-4833. For general chapter information, contact chapter president Pete Brown or visit the North Chapter home page (www.patc.net/chapters/north/).

Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter sponsors hikes in national and state parks and forests in the Shenandoah Valley vicinity, open to the public, on a monthly basis except during the winter. Hikes are posted in the Forecast. Other activities are in the NSV Chapter Newsletter. For further information contact Betsy Fowler (efowler@shentel.com).

Chapters

Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

See www.ssvc.org or the one linked to the PATC Web site for descriptions of hikes and work trips. We usually hike in the southern and central districts of the SNP and in the GWNF. Contact the listed hike leader for information about a specific event, or contact Mark Gatewood 540/248-0442.

West Chapter

The West Chapter meets twice a year in March and September. The Chapter maintains a section of the Black Locust circuit trail in Gambrill State Park near Frederick, Md. Work trips and hikes are usually scheduled monthly from March through December. We also lead overnight weekend trips for day hikes or backpacking. All activities are listed in the PA Forecast. For further information contact Dave Jordahl (westpatc@hotmail.com) 304/876-7062 (evenings) or 240/777-7741 (days).

Ski Touring Section

The Ski Touring Section has served since 1974 to introduce Washington area residents to cross-country skiing and to provide cross-country skiing opportunities to experienced skiers. The Section sponsors winter weekend ski trips for all levels of skiers to nearby mountains in Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, as well as periodic social events year round. INFO: Bert Finkelstein (berf@erols.com) 703/715-8534.

Mountaineering Section

We're a diverse group of local Washington, DC area climbers. Young and old, male and female, crag rat, sport climber, and alpinist, active and armchair types – we all enjoy climbing in its many varieties. We also share common interests in promoting safe climbing, conserving the outdoors, developing new climbers' skills, representing the Washington area climbing community, and having fun! We provide instruction for those wanting to learn the basics – we're not a school, but we can get you started. We go climbing, either locally or further afield, nearly every weekend. In the winter we organize trips to the Ice Festivals in the Adirondacks and the White Mountains for beginning and advanced ice

climbers. For further information contact Dave Raboy (draboy@pattonboggs.com), or Vincent Penoso (vdotmatrix@gmail.com).

PATC Hikes

PATC offers organized hikes appealing to the diverse interests of our members. There are K-9 Hikes, which invite you to bring your favorite dog; Family Hikes tailored to kids; Natural History Hikes stalking the fascinating but often elusive flora and fauna of the region; hikes featuring varying levels of difficulty with the Easy Hikers, In-Between Hikers, and Vigorous Hikers; Birding Hikes with experts to help sight and identify our avian neighbors; Historical Hikes tracking little-known structures in Shenandoah National Park; Series Hikes tracing the entire length of the Tuscarora Trail or the trails of Pennsylvania, section by section; Backpacking Hikes traversing the tracts of West Virginia and Southern Virginia; hikes scheduled for weekends; ones scheduled for weekdays; Geology Hikes led by experts from the Smithsonian focused on the unique stratigraphy of our area; Mushroom Hikes with mycologists; Waterfall Hikes to beat the summer heat; and Outreach Hikes to get together with the members of area groups like the Sierra Club or the Congressional Hikers. That is just to name a few. Check out the Forecast calendar and hear updates on the weekly tape (703/242-0965).

Other Clubs' Hikes

Capital (www.capitalhikingclub.org) and Wanderbirds (www.wanderbirds.org) hike on Saturdays and Sundays, traveling by bus and leaving from downtown, with suburban stops as well. Center Club, Northern Virginia Hiking Club and Sierra Club hike on both Saturdays and Sundays using carpools, which often leave from a suburban Metro stop. Schedules are available at PATC Headquarters and are published in area newspapers on Fridays. The schedule of West Virginia Highland Conservancy outings in the Monongahela National Forest and surrounding areas is on their web site at www.wvhighlands.org.

KEY to Forecast Activities

All events are marked for easy identification. Late changes or cancellations are listed on the weekly information tape (703/242-0965), which is updated on Sunday evening for the following seven days. The Forecast can also be found on PATC's Web site at www.patc.net/activities/forecast.html.

-  Hiking Trips
-  Backpacking Trips
-  Trail Work Trips
-  Cabin/Shelter Work Trips
-  Special Events
-  Meetings
-  Classes
-  K9 Trail Blazers (dogs permitted)

Note to all hike leaders: Please ask non-members on your hike if they would like to join PATC, then get names and addresses so a club volunteer can send them information packets. Thanks!

Meetings

Meetings

Meetings are held at PATC HQ, 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, Va., unless otherwise noted.

New Members (PATC) –

First Wednesday

7:30 p.m. Want to learn more about the club? The best way is to attend a New Members meeting (but you don't have to be new). Refreshments served. Directions: Take Rt. 123 into Vienna, Va., and turn east on Park St. (Rt. 675) to 118 Park St. on your left. INFO: Georgeann Smale (membership@patc.net) 301/581-9584 or Pat Fankhauser (pfankhauser@patc.net).

Mountaineering Section –

Second Wednesday

8:00 p.m. – We meet every month on the second Wednesday except for August, unless noted in the Forecast. INFO: Dave Raboy (draboy@pattonboggs.com), or Vincent Penoso (vdotmatrix@gmail.com) or our Web site: www.potomacmountainclub.org

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

Business meeting - Last Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. INFO: Doug Sigman (join@smrg.org), 703/255-5034, or www.smrg.org.

PATC Council – Second Tuesday

The council meets at 7:00 p.m. sharp. The PATC Council meets every month to conduct business of the club and once a year for a dinner meeting. All members are always welcome. Come see how we make decisions about your club. INFO: Wilson Riley (wriley@patc.net) 703/242-0693 x11.

Trail Patrol – First Tuesday

7:30 p.m., except January. Trail Patrol volunteers are PATC's goodwill trail ambassadors to the hiking public. They provide a visible, reassuring presence on the trails, and strive to educate the public on good hiking practices, minimum impact hiking, and camping ethics. Patrol members are trained in land navigation, emergency procedures, radio communications, and personal equipment. Some equipment and uniform items are provided upon completion of training. INFO: Katrina Hedlesky (trailpatrol@patc.net) 703/533-3652, or see our section in PATC's Web site: www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol.

September

1 (Friday)

DEADLINE – October Potomac Appalachian Material due to editors 5:00 p.m.

All items for the next issue of the newsletter due. Send Forecast events to PA-Forecast@patc.net and all other articles to the editor at PA@patc.net. NOTE: Do not send photos or articles to headquarters. E-mail for address.

2 (Saturday)

HIKE – Charlottesville Chapter Staunton, VA

This 8-mile circuit hike in the Ramsey's Draft Wilderness of GW National Forest starts at Mountain House Picnic Area. After a 740-foot climb up Road Hollow Trail, there is little further climbing. The hike then follows Shenandoah Mountain Trail with overlooks of the surrounding country, then descends into Ramsey's Draft Wilderness along Jerry's Run and Ramsey's Draft Trails. The numerous stream crossings are usually easy but the unblazed wilderness trail is tricky to follow at times. Patches of nettles are expected. The area is shown on maps covering Shenandoah Mountain area or Deerfield Ranger District. The pace and difficulty are moderate. INFO: John Shannon (johnsha@cstone.net) 434/293-2953.

2 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP – Yankee Clippers Appalachian Trail, PA

INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

3 (Sunday)

CLASS – Intro to Mountain Biking (REI) Bailey's Crossroads, VA

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Not just a guided tour, this is an educational ride. REI Outdoor School guides will go over technique & skills, trail etiquette, and important communication and safety points. \$50.00 members, \$65.00 non-members. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

5 (Tuesday)

HIKE – Family Hike Lansdowne (near Ashburn), VA

Come check out this new section of the Potomac Heritage Trail. On this hike, we will explore the various ways to follow a trail; signs, blazes, treadway, etc. This out and back hike is jogging-stroller passable. We will hike about 2-3 miles, depending on the desires of the group. Potomac Heritage Trail Web site: www.nps.gov/pohe/. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.com) 571/242-3950.

5 (Tuesday)

HIKE – Vigorous Hikers South District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

From VA659 climb Austin Mountain and Big Run Loop Trails. Head south on AT, drop down Furnace Mountain Trail for swim in the Madison Run near end; 15.6 miles with about 3,500 ft climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

5 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Trail Patrol, 7:30 p.m.

6 (Wednesday)

CLASS – Map and Compass 101 (REI) Bailey's Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. Get the skills to stay found! This introduction to map and compass will cover interpretation of map data and symbols, compass function, orienting map and compass, declination adjustment, and reading terrain features. Participants are encouraged to bring their own compasses. Free. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

6 (Wednesday)

HIKE – Easy Hikers Great Falls, VA

We will start at Colvin Run Mill Park for a 6-mile, out-and-back hike on the Fairfax Cross County Trail (CCT). The trail is mostly flat with modest elevation changes on a natural surface and crosses Difficult Run stream at two fair weather (step) crossings. We follow the stream north to the parking lot at Georgetown Pike then return to the mill for lunch. Directions: Beltway Exit 47A (Leesburg Pike, Rte. 7) west 5 miles past Tysons Corner to right turn on Colvin Run Road. Left turn into paved parking lot 500 feet beyond gravel drive to mill. Bring lunch and water. Starts at 10:15 a.m., rain or shine. INFO: Henri Comeau (HenriComeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965.

6 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Midweek Hikers Location to be determined

The PATC Midweek Hikers carpool each Wednesday from the Washington, DC area to various trailheads. Hikes are at a moderate pace and about 8 to 12 miles in length with varied elevations. Current information, including meeting place, time, leader's name and phone number, and a detailed description of the hike are available on the PATC Activities Recording: 703/242-0965.

6 (Wednesday)

MEETING - New Members (PATC), 7:30 p.m.

9 (Saturday)

HIKE – Charlottesville Chapter Waynesboro, VA

This hike features swimming in Sherando Lake at the end. Starting from the lake, there is a brisk 900-foot climb in 1 mile to Torry Ridge, with another 150 feet uphill over the next 1.7 miles. Then on the Slacks Trail and White Rock Gap Trail it is mainly level or downhill. The circuit is 8.2 miles, 1050 feet elevation change, with the initial climb making this moderate to strenuous. There is an entrance fee to the recreation area. The leader requires dogs on a leash at all times. PATC map 12 covers this area. INFO: John Shannon (johnsha@cstone.net) 434/293-2953.

9 (Saturday)

HIKE – Family Hike Springfield, VA

Join us for a 5-mile, jogging-stroller-friendly hike around Lake Accotink. There is one spot that has long stairs, but working together we can get the strollers down. Half way around we will stop at a playground with a nice picnicking area. There are bathrooms there too. We'll go at a kid's pace. Web

September

9 – 10 (Saturday – Sunday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Round Hill, VA

Join the Crew for a cool fall weekend (we hope) as we work on the AT near the Blackburn Trail Center. Projects include trail clearing and erosion control. As usual, there are a variety other projects when the Crew visits Blackburn. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Blackburn Trail Center. INFO: Jon or Katherine Rindt (jkrindt@adelphia.net) 540/635-6351.

site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/accotink/. INFO: Anne Regan (anne.c.regan@verizon.net) 703/689-3883.

9 (Saturday)

HIKE – Long Distance South District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

A 16-mile circuit hike ascending from the eastern side of the Blue Ridge Mountains up the Moorman River Trail to the Appalachian Trail. There are many stream crossings. Total elevation gain 3,000 feet. Return via the Turk Mountain Cutoff Trail. Moderate pace including stops for flora, fauna, fungi and other nature objects of interest. Inexperienced hikers contact leader if details needed. INFO: William Needham (Needham82@aol.com) 410/884-9127.

9 (Saturday)

HIKE – North Chapter Mapleton Depot, PA

Link Trail; Pa. Rte. 655 to Mapleton Depot Rte. 22, 9.7 miles. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@inner-net.net) 717/794-2855 after 6:00 p.m.

9 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Washington, DC

8:15 a.m. – Noon. Whittier and/or Holly Trail. Help us slow the erosion of these trails. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW park entrance. Rain or shine. INFO: Alex Sanders (wdctrails@yahoo.com) 703/465-8140 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/895-6221.

9 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP – South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD

INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

9 – 10 (Saturday – Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP – Vining Tract Crew Stanardsville, VA

Additional funding has been approved for materials and we have completed the chinking of the logs on Butternut Cabin. Much remains to be done, however, and the crew can use your help with trail maintenance and construction of Butternut Cabin. Community meals and overnight at a cabin. INFO: Hugh Robinson (mes.htr@verizon.net) 703/525-8726.

9 – 10 (Saturday – Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP – Cadillac Crew Round Hill, VA

Join the Crew for a hopefully cool fall weekend as we work on the AT near the Blackburn Trail Center. Projects include trail clearing and erosion control. As usual, there are a variety other projects when the Crew visits Blackburn. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Blackburn Trail Center. INFO: Jon or Katherine Rindt (jkrindt@adelphia.net) 540/635-6351.

10 (Sunday)

CLASS – GPS Navigation (REI) Bailey's Crossroads, VA

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Head out into the field for a day of hands-on navigation training with our expert Outdoor School guides. Demo GPS units will be available, as well as maps and compasses. Enjoy a scenic hike through a local park and work on skills. \$35.00 members, \$50.00 non-members. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

12 (Tuesday)

HIKE – Family Hike Harpers Ferry, WV

This 2.5-mile circuit hike will take us up the AT to some great views at Jefferson Rock, then we will continue along the AT into the historic town of

FORECAST

Harpers Ferry. The flat and scenic trails on Virginus Island, along the Shenandoah River, will complete the circuit. The trail is not jogging-stroller passable. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.com) 571/242-3950.

12 (Tuesday)

HIKE – Vigorous Hikers

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Overall Falls; from Thompson Hollow climb Overall Run, view the falls, continue to AT and Elkwallow, returning via Heiskell Hollow, 16 miles and 3,500 ft. climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

13 (Wednesday)

HIKE – Easy Hikers

Annandale, VA

The Easy Hikers will hike 4-5 moderate miles around Lake Accotink beginning at Wakefield Park on Braddock Rd. at 10:15 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Directions: Exit the Beltway (I-495) at Braddock Rd. (Exit 54). Go west on Braddock Rd. and turn right at first right turn into Wakefield Park. Meet at first parking lot on the left. INFO: Shirley Rettig (shirley_rettig@yahoo.com) 703/836/0147.

13 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Midweek Hikers

Location to be determined

See Sept. 6 event for more information.

13 (Wednesday)

MEETING - Mountaineering Section, 8:00 p.m.

14 (Thursday)

HIKE – After School Hike

Leesburg, VA

We will hike around the interpretive trail in Balls Bluff Regional Park, branch off down to the Potomac River, then continue along the interpretive trail up to the bluff overlooking the Potomac, and Maryland farms beyond it. Towards the end of the hike, we will check out one of the smallest national cemeteries. This 1.5-mile circuit hike is jogging-stroller passable, barely, with some short, steep sections, roots, and rocks. This is designed as a family activity, so an adult must accompany children. Web site: www.nvrpa.org/ballsbluff.html. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.com) 571/242-3950.

15 - 17 (Friday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Argow Cabin

South District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Come help restore an old mid-1800s log cabin built by Confederate Soldier James Samuel Eaton. We will be replacing the old floor joists of the cabin and begin construction of the new privy. Communal meals for Sat. dinner, Sun. Breakfast and Sun. lunch for a minimal fee. INFO: Jeff Testerman (jtest@ntelos.net) 434/589-2081.

16 (Saturday)

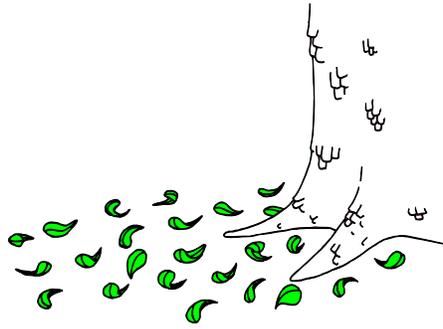
HIKE – Waterfall and Wildflower Series

Columbia Furnace, VA

A 14-mile circuit in the on the Falls Ridge, Laurel Spur, Great North Mountain and Fat Mountain trails on Great North Mountain. Total elevation gain is 2,900 feet. PATC Map F. INFO: Jack Thorsen (thorsen4@juno.com) 703/339-6716 or William Needham (Needham82@AOL.COM) 410/884-9127.

16 (Saturday)

MEETING - PATC Council, Blackburn, 9:30 a.m.



16 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP – Yankee Clippers

Tuscarora Trail, PA

INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

17 (Sunday)

HIKE – Sunday Hikers

Washington, DC

And now, for something completely different. The Sunday Hikers will visit Glover-Archibold Park in the District, for a circuit hike of 8.1 miles, including Dumbarton Oaks Park, and Melvin Hazen Park. No pets. INFO: Vince Ferrari (vincentferrari@gmail.com) 301/249-2210.

17 (Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP – West Chapter

Frederick, MD

The first trail work event scheduled for fall 2006 will take place in Gambrill State Park. The weather will be cooler and the trails will still need maintenance. Continuation of the projects begun Aug. 27; water bar clearing, installation of cribbing to prevent/slow down lateral erosion of certain sections of the Black Trail and Blue Trail (Catocin Trail). A few water bars may need to be installed at certain sections as well. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center. INFO: Dave Jordahl (westpatc@hotmail.com) 240/777-7741 or 304/876-7062.

19 (Tuesday)

HIKE – Family Hike

Oakton, VA

We will hike the Northern section of the Cross County trail along the beautiful Difficult Run to where it joins the Potomac River. We will return along the Ridge Trail in Great Falls Park. We will picnic along the way. This 3-mile circuit hike is jogging-stroller passable. Cross County Trail Web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/cct/. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.com) 571/242-3950.

19 (Tuesday)

HIKE – Vigorous Hikers

Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Old Rag and White Oak Canyon: 14 miles and 4,500 ft climb. Enjoy the scramble up Old Rag, down to foot of White Oak for a second climb and return via Corbin Hollow. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

20 (Wednesday)

CLASS – Ultra-light Backpacking (REI)

Bailey's Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. Summer is over, school is open, the heat is gone and so are the crowds. Now is the time for some great hikes, rides and paddles along the back roads, trails and waterways of our region. Plan now to enjoy the crisp air and fall colors. We'll show you some great destinations, and provide some great tips to make your getaway more enjoyable! INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

20 (Wednesday)

HIKE – Easy Hikers

Lothian, MD

Meet at 10:15 a.m. to hike 5-6 miles through the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary and adjacent River Farm. Terrain includes some hills, forest, meadow and marsh habitat. Special feature: a half-mile hike through tidal wetlands along the narrow bed of a former RR track, for stunning view of the Patuxent River. More information from: www.jugbay.org. Directions: Take Beltway Exit 11 (Penna. Ave.-Rte. 4) east/south toward Upper Marlboro. Follow Rte. 4 east/south for 10.5 miles to the Plummer Lane exit (this is 3 miles east of Rte. 301 and 1.5 miles east of the Patuxent River). Exit right at Plummer Lane and go 0.5 miles, turning right on Wrighton Rd. Continue on Wrighton for 0.5 miles to Sanctuary entrance on left. Entrance fee \$3 (\$2 for seniors). 25 person limit, reservations required. INFO: Nancie Coan (nanco4000@yahoo.com) 202/338-4580.

20 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Midweek Hikers

Location to be determined

See Sept. 6 event for more information.

20 (Wednesday)

MEETING - West Chapter

Frederick, MD

The fall meeting of the Chapter will take place at 7:00 a.m. in the Tea Room of Gambrill State Park at the High Knob use area. This will be a joint meeting with the Gambrill State Park Trails Coalition which includes user groups, sponsors, and trail maintainers not directly affiliated with PATC, but with an interest in maintaining and protecting the Park's trail system. INFO: Dave Jordahl (westpatc@hotmail.com) 240/777-7741 or 304/876-7062.

23 (Saturday)

HIKE – Charlottesville Chapter

South District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

This 9.6-mile circuit hike starts at Blackrock Gap, and climbs to a rocky outcropping at Blackrock with clear views of the Shenandoah Valley. Then we will head out to Trayfoot Mountain, and descend to Paine Run. The final ascent will be along Paine Run Trail. There are two crossings of Paine Run which usually involve rock hopping but could require wading if there is heavy rain. Moderate pace, but the hike is described as strenuous, with 2,200 feet elevation change. PATC map 11 covers the area. Pets must be on a leash at all times. This hike was the first hike held by the Charlottesville Chapter, twenty years ago on roughly the same week. INFO: John Shannon (johnsha@cstone.net) 434-293-2953.

23 (Saturday)

HIKE – Family Hike

Paris, VA

Please join us for a hike in Sky Meadows State Park. It is a beautiful park with great views. We will do a 3.7-mile loop at a kid's pace. There are some steep stretches on the trail. Not jogging-stroller passable. Web site: www.dcr.state.va.us/parks/skymeadow.htm. INFO: Anne Regan (anne.c.regan@verizon.net) 703/689-3883.

23 (Saturday)

HIKE – In-Between Hikers

Fort Valley, VA

Massanutten Kennedy Peak Trail, Fort Valley, VA. Approximately 5.2 miles (not a circuit hike). Easy pace and spectacular views. INFO: Betsy Fowler (betsy.fowler@ngc.com) 703/403-2919 or 540/933-6136.

23 (Saturday)

🚶 **HIKE – Tuscarora Trail Series**
Siler, VA

Siler Country Store to VA 689. 7.6 miles-easy hike. Elevation change of 200 feet. This out and back hike will take us through various farms and fields on private lands. There will be a nice view of Cacapon Mountain and Great North Mountain near the campsite at Dresel Wayside. INFO: Jason Rainville (superjasonr@hotmail.com) 304/262-0994.

23 (Saturday)

🚶 **TRAIL WORK TRIP – South Mountaineers**
Appalachian Trail, MD

INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

23 – 24 (Saturday – Sunday)

📖 **CLASS – Trail Maintainers Workshop**
North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

New and prospective trail overseers, come learn trail maintenance skills from SNP trail professionals and PATC trail crew leaders. The workshop will be held at Mathews Arm Campground. \$20 registration fee. See advertisement elsewhere in the PA. INFO: Dick Dugan (rdugan@frontiernet.net) 304/856-3511.

23 – 24 (Saturday – Sunday)

🐾 **SPECIAL EVENT – NSV Chapter**
Fort Valley, VA

Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter retreat at Glass House, Fort Valley, Va. Meeting and potluck dinner on Saturday night. INFO: Betsy Fowler (betsy.fowler@ngc.com) 703/403-2919 or 540/933-6136.

24 (Sunday)

🚶 **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Massanutten Mountain**
Luray/New Market, VA

Help pitch in to help improve some of the great scenic trails in the Massanutten Mountain South District of the George Washington National Forest. We will meet at the Fridley Gap Parking Area at the end of SR 868 at 9:45 a.m. We will work on Fridley Gap Trail from the Massanutten Mountain South Trail to Martin Bottom Trail. Experience is unnecessary. Training and tools can be provided. Please bring your lunch, water, appropriate clothing, and leather gloves. Please check before going to the meeting site. I can provide you with the exact location of the trail we will be working on as the date approaches. INFO: Tate Heuer (tate@wth2.com) 202/255-6055.

26 (Tuesday)

🚶 **HIKE – Vigorous Hikers**
Luray, VA

Camp Roosevelt Area of GW National Forest. Gap Creek, Scothorn Gap, Massanutten and Stephens Trails. 18 miles and 3,300 ft climb with 15-mile option. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

26 (Tuesday)

🏠 **MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (Business meeting), 7:30 p.m.**

27 (Wednesday)

🚶 **HIKE – Easy Hikers**
Burke, VA

Five level miles around Burke Lake. Meet at 10:15 a.m. From the Beltway, exit west onto Braddock Rd. Move to ward the left, and in 1.9 miles from the Beltway, the lane you are in becomes one of a pair of left-turn lanes onto Burke Lake Rd (Rte. 645). Stay with it - don't worry about the misleading sign before the preceding left. Go 4.7 miles, left onto Ox Rd. (Rte. 123). In 0.5 miles (after Golf Center), turn left into Burke Lake Park. Follow signs to the marina. Bring lunch and water. INFO: Sue King 703/356-6659.

27 (Wednesday)

🚶 **HIKE - Midweek Hikers**
Location to be determined

See Sept. 6 event for more information.

28 (Thursday)

🚶 **HIKE – After School Hike**
Comus, MD

Come hike to the top of this monadnock (a mountain that remains after the erosion of the surrounding land.) This 1.5-mile circuit hike has some kid sized rock scrambles, and good views from the top. The trail is rocky and steep in places. We will climb up to the summit via the Sunrise Trail, hike down the A.M. Thomas Trail, and Northern Peaks Trail to the Bill Lambert Overlook, then return to our cars via the Mountain Loop Trail. The trail is not jogging-stroller friendly. If you would like, bring along a picnic dinner to enjoy at the picnic area near the parking lot. This is designed as a family activity, so an adult must accompany children. Web site: www.sugarloafmd.com/. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.com) 571/242-3950.

30 (Saturday)

🐾 **SPECIAL EVENT – Trail Talkers**
McLean, VA

Come to the Celebrate Virginia event. Virginia-made food and beverages; arts and crafts; entertainment; and door prizes. Check it out at www.mcleancenter.org. We have one volunteer and could use another. INFO: Linda Rudy (lindarudy@att.net) 304/636-8557.

October

1 (Sunday)

DEADLINE – November Potomac Appalachian
Material due to editors 5:00 p.m.

All items for the next issue of the newsletter due. Send Forecast events to PA-Forecast@patc.net and all other articles to the editor at PA@patc.net. NOTE: Do not send photos or articles to headquarters. E-mail for address.

1 (Sunday)

🚶 **HIKE – Sunday Hikers**
Seneca, MD

The Sunday Hikers will be visiting the Seneca Creek Greenway Trail for a 9-mile hike of easy to moderate difficulty. The trail follows Great Seneca Creek from its confluence with the Potomac River at Riley's Lock all the way to Rte. 355. We'll be hiking just from Riley's to Rte. 118, taking in such sites as Poole's General Store and the Black Rock Mill along the way. A volunteer for a car shuttle will be needed to complete this one-way hike. No pets. INFO: Vince Ferrari (vincentferrari@gmail.com) 301/249-2210.



1 (Sunday)

🚶 **TRAIL WORK TRIP – South Mountaineers**
Appalachian Trail, MD

INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

3 (Tuesday)

🚶 **HIKE – Family Hike**
Leesburg, VA

This kid-friendly 2-mile circuit hike is jogging-stroller passable, with some short, steep sections, and roots. We will make cereal necklaces at the trailhead to munch along the way. The trail winds through the forest, with some views of the Potomac River. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.com) 571/242-3950.

3 (Tuesday)

🚶 **HIKE – Vigorous Hikers**
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Climb Buck Hollow to the AT south to Pinnacles, return via upper Hannah Run Trail and Hazel River Trail to White Rocks then bushwhack 1.5 miles down the old wagon road. 14 miles 3,500 ft. climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

3 (Tuesday)

🏠 **MEETING - Trail Patrol, 7:30 p.m.**

4 (Wednesday)

🚶 **HIKE - Midweek Hikers**
Location to be determined

See Sept. 6 event for more information.

4 (Wednesday)

🏠 **MEETING - New Members (PATC), 7:30 p.m.**

5 – 7 (Thursday – Saturday)

🐾 **SPECIAL EVENT – Trail Talkers**
Elkins, WV

Come join us as a Trail Talker at the annual Mountain State Forest Festival. We have one person signed up but could use some more help with this event that draws up to 100,000 people. Parade, carnival, crafts, food, concerts and lots more. See www.forestfestival.com for schedule of events and photos from last year's festival. INFO: Linda Rudy (lindarudy@att.net) 304/636-8557.

7 (Saturday)

🚶 **HIKE – Family Hike**
Comus, MD

Join us at Sugarloaf Mountain. This 1.5-mile circuit hike has some fun rock scrambles, and good views from the top. Kids can get the feel of being on top of something. The trail is rocky and steep in places. We will climb up to the summit via the Sunrise Trail, hike down the A.M. Thomas Trail, and Northern Peaks Trail to the Bill Lambert Overlook, then return to our cars via the Mountain Loop Trail. Because of the steep rocky parts the trail is not jogging-stroller friendly. Web site: www.sugarloafmd.com/. INFO: Anne Regan (anne.c.regan@verizon.net) 703/689-3883.

7 (Saturday)

🐾 **SPECIAL EVENT – Trail Talkers**
Frederick, MD

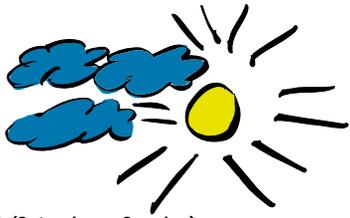
We need Trail Talkers at In The Street, Steeplechase's Mile Run; parade; music; food; beer & wine sampling; plus art activities for kids and adults. Call 301/694-2489 for information. INFO: Linda Rudy (lindarudy@att.net) 304/636-8557.

7 (Saturday)

🚶 **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Yankee Clippers**
Appalachian Trail, PA

INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

FORECAST



7 - 8 (Saturday - Sunday) CLASS - Wilderness First Aid (WSC) Alexandria, VA

A program of the Wilderness Safety Council, this eighteen-hour class includes classroom study, hands-on practice, and results in a two-year certification. The cost is \$160. More information and registration at: <http://wfa.net>. INFO: Christopher Tate 703/836-8905.

7- 8 (Saturday - Sunday) SPECIAL EVENT - Trail Talkers Berkeley Springs, WV

Join us at the 33rd Annual Apple Butter Festival. There'll be a parade, games, contests, arts & crafts, food, entertainment and, of course, lots of apple butter. See www.berkeleyssprings.com for details. INFO: Linda Rudy (lindarudy@att.net) 304/636-8557.

9 (Monday) HIKE - In-Between Hikers Great Falls, VA

A Columbus Day one-way and scenic 7.5 mile hike from Leigh Mill Rd. to Fairfax CCT terminus at the Potomac River in Great Falls Park, and then partly hilly along riverfront in that park and Riverbend Park. Car shuttle required. Joint event with Sierra Club MWROP. Bring lunch and water. Dine with a Great Falls view. Pets not allowed. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Riverbend Park visitor center. INFO: Henri Comeau (HenriComeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965.

10 (Tuesday) HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Ascend the Jones Mountain Trail to Bear Church Rock, continuing to Cat Knob, returning on the Fork Mountain, Staunton River Trail with options up to 18 miles and 4,300 feet of elevation gain. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

10 (Tuesday) MEETING - PATC Council, 7:00 p.m.

11 (Wednesday) HIKE - Midweek Hikers Location to be determined

See Sept. 6 event for more information.

11 (Wednesday) MEETING - Mountaineering Section, 8:00 p.m.

13 - 15 (Friday - Sunday) CABIN WORK TRIP - Argow Cabin South District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Come help restore an old mid-1800s log cabin built by Confederate Soldier James Samuel Eaton. We will be replacing the old floor joists of the cabin and begin construction of the new privy. Communal meals for Sat. dinner, Sun. Breakfast and Sun. lunch for a minimal fee. INFO: Jeff Testerman (jtest@ntelos.net) 434/589-2081.

14 (Saturday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Washington, DC

8:15 a.m. - noon. Our next to last trip of the year. Don't miss your chance to do some work on the trails in 2006. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW

park entrance. Rain or shine. INFO: Alex Sanders (wcdtrails@yahoo.com) 703/465-8140 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/895-6221.

15 (Sunday) HIKE - North Chapter Cowens Gap, PA

Rte. 475 to Tuscarora Trail, 14.4 miles. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@innernet.net) 717/794-2855 after 6:00 p.m.

17 (Tuesday) HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Climb Leading Ridge Trail to the AT south to lunch at Corbin Cabin. Then climb Indian Run Trail to return via Crusher Ridge. 18 miles with 4,000 ft climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

18 (Wednesday) HIKE - Midweek Hikers Location to be determined

See Sept. 6 event for more information.

20 - 22 (Friday - Sunday) SPECIAL EVENT - Trail Talkers Millwood, VA

Trail Talkers needed at the Shenandoah Valley Balloon and Wine Festival. For more information, see www.historiclongbranch.com. INFO: Linda Rudy (lindarudy@att.net) 304/636-8557.

21 (Saturday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - North District Hoodlums North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Come help the North District Hoodlums do some tread work in the Park! The Hoodlums trail crew works on the Appalachian Trail and the blue-blazed trails in the north section of Shenandoah National Park. After a day of hard work, we'll enjoy the camaraderie of fellow trail workers with an Octoberfest meal. Come for the day, stay for dinner, and camp overnight if you wish. Or just come out and work with us during the day. Newcomers are always welcome! We'll meet at Piney River Ranger Station, MP 22 on Skyline Drive, at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. INFO: Dick Dugan (rdugan@frontiernet.net) 304/856-3511.

21 (Saturday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Tuscarora Trail, PA

INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

21 - 22 (Saturday - Sunday) SPECIAL EVENT - Wilderness Weekend Shenandoah National Park, VA

Enjoy fall foliage and help raise visitor awareness, knowledge and appreciation of designated wilderness by volunteering at Shenandoah's 6th annual Wilderness Weekend - the 30th anniversary of Shenandoah's wilderness designation. We'll set up at strategic Skyline Drive overlooks that view Shenandoah Wilderness with displays, maps and information to talk with visitors about the existence and values of PATC and wilderness. On-the-job training provided. No prior experience needed. Volunteer for one day or two. INFO: Catherine Pipan (cpipan@cox.net) or Laura Buchheit (laura_buchheit@nps.gov).

22 (Sunday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Mountain Luray/New Market, VA

Help pitch in to help improve some of the great scenic trails in the Massanutten Mountain South District of the George Washington National Forest. We will meet in the parking lot of the the Forest

Service Visitors Center on Hwy 211 at 9:30 a.m. Experience is unnecessary. Training and tools can be provided. Please bring your lunch, water, appropriate clothing, and leather gloves. Please check before going to the meeting site. I can provide you with the exact location of the trail we will be working on as the date approaches. INFO: Tate Heuer (tate@wth2.com) 202/255-6055.

22 (Sunday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD

INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

24 (Tuesday) HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Wardensville, WV

In GW National Forest, From Waites Run north on County Line Trail to shelter, down to Wilson Cove Trail, looping around via Old Mail Path, Tuscarora Trail and Pond Run Trail; 16 miles and 3,600 ft. climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

25 (Wednesday) HIKE - Midweek Hikers Location to be determined

See Sept. 6 event for more information.

28 (Saturday) HIKE - Tuscarora Trail Series Gore, VA

Gore to the Pinnacle. 8.3 miles-strenuous hike. Elevation change of 2,300 feet. This hike will take us to the Pinnacle area which contains a shelter and a great view looking towards West Virginia. We'll then backtrack a bit to the Biby Trail to lead us to our cars. INFO: Jason Rainville (superjason@hotmail.com) 304/262-0994.

28 (Saturday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Great Falls, MD

Join the crew to work on the Billy Goat Trail. Overseer Georgeann Smale needs help to repair sections of the trail due to erosion or over use. Potluck supper at nearby pavilion to close out a fun work trip. INFO: Jon or Katherine Rindt (jkrindt@adelphia.net) 540/635-6351.

28 (Saturday) TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Washington, DC

8:15 a. m. to noon. Our last trip of 2006. Come out in the morning for the trails and join us afterward for our year-end thank you party. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW park entrance. Rain or shine. INFO: Alex Sanders (wcdtrails@yahoo.com) 703/465-8140 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/895-6221.

28 - 29 (Saturday - Sunday) CLASS - CPR/AED/Wilderness First Aid Vienna, VA

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. This two-day class provides American Heart Association certification in Adult CPR, AED, and Basic First Aid. The second day the student will learn American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI) Basic Wilderness First Aid. All certifications are valid for two years. Cost of the class is \$120 for Trail Patrol Members and \$130 for Non-Trail Patrol Members. Pre-Registration is required by Oct. 20. Go to www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol.com for more information and the registration form. INFO: Saleena DeVore (tp1staid@patc.net) 540/972-8394.

Events in PATC's, ATC's Backyard

Hike Harpers Ferry on September 30, 2006

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy and Harpers Ferry Main Street, in conjunction with Harpers Ferry National Historic Park will sponsor Hike Harpers Ferry again this year in celebration of National Public Lands Day. This will be a *fee free* day and parking in the visitors' center lot on Rt. 340 will be waived for the day. Approximately seven hikes are currently being planned. Hike leaders, volunteers, and hikers are needed. Information tents will be set up. For further information please contact Katherine Edelen at 304/535-6331, ext. 123 or by e-mail at kedelen@appalachiantrail.org.

Appalachian Trail Conservancy to Hold Holiday Open House December 2, 2006

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy will hold its 3rd annual holiday open house on Saturday, Dec. 2, in conjunction with Harpers Ferry Old Tyme Christmas and Harpers Ferry National Historic Park activities. Homemade cookies, cider and coffee will be served at the Appalachian Trail Visitors Center in Harpers Ferry.

—Katherine Edelen, Corporate Relations Manager, ATC

Combined Federal Campaign 2006

PATC Agency Number **7956**

Make Your Contribution Count!

PATC is participating again this year in the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area. Please consider a donation to PATC. The fund will be active through December. Thank you for your support, and thanks to the members who contributed via the CFC last year.

It's for a good cause!

FORECAST

28 – 29 (Saturday – Sunday)

☞ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Shenandoah Bartenders**
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Warm days paired with cool nights, and what could be better than doing some honest labor on SNP's finest - Old Rag's Ridge Trail. We plan to do some bar tending, and other trail maintenance, as well as enjoy the season with some Halloween fun. Come out for either day, or better yet, join the crew for a backpack overnight. Overnights should bring a dessert and your favorite ghost story to share. No experience in trail work necessary. We will train you, but first timers should call Cathie evenings Mon-Thur. INFO: Cathie Cummins (Cathie@wfa.net) 703/631-7421.

31 (Tuesday)

☞ **HIKE – Vigorous Hikers**

Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Climb Corbin Mountain, run down Indian Run, follow Nicholson Hollow up to the AT, see Stony Man summit, return via Corbin Hollow. About 15.5 miles and 3,500 ft climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

31 (Tuesday)

☞ **MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (Business meeting),**
7:30 p.m. ☐

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club - Trail Patrol presents

Backpacking 101

An Introductory Backpacking Course

A second chance in 2006 to take this popular class. The class provides those persons, 18 years and older, who have moderate or no backpacking experience with the opportunity to expand their enjoyment of the outdoors through the practice of backpacking. The class provides basic instruction in equipment selection and use, information and techniques to enhance safety and comfort, and Leave No Trace methods to protect our fragile backcountry environment. It also provides more experienced backpackers an opportunity to hone or renew their skills and adapt their backpacking techniques to the Leave No Trace wilderness ethic. The students will then use their new skills on an overnight backpacking trip accompanied by experienced backpacking instructors.

Introduction Night

Sept. 11, (Monday), 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Headquarters, 118 Park Street, SE, Vienna, Va.

Instructional Weekend

Sept. 16 - 17, 8:00 a.m. Sat. – 4:00 p.m. Sun.

Prince William Forest Park, Triangle, Va.

(Sat. overnight car camping in campground encouraged but not required)

Overnight Backpacking Trip

Oct. 7 - 8, 2006 (Sat. - Sun.), Trip destination and times TBD

\$75 PATC Members; \$95 Non-Members

For more information, contact John Bridges 703/726-0188, TPBackpack@patc.net

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club - Trail Patrol presents

Backpacking 202

How to Plan and Enjoy a Backcountry Outing *An Intermediate Course Focused On Planning Small* *Group Trips*

Working in groups of eight or fewer, participants can expand or renew their skills by planning and executing a three-day group backpacking trip. The course covers equipment selection and use, route planning, food planning, safety and comfort in challenging conditions, and Leave No Trace (LNT) principles. Experienced instructors facilitate group planning sessions and accompany the weekend trip.

Group Planning Sessions

Three Monday nights, 7:30-10:00: Sept. 11, 18, and Oct. 2

Headquarters, 118 Park Street, SE, Vienna, Va.

Weekend Outing – Location TBD

Three days, two nights: Columbus Day weekend, Oct. 7 - 9

\$40.00 PATC Members; \$55.00 non-members

Pre-registration is required. Applicants must know the basics and have some backpacking experience. To receive a registration form and for all other information, call or e-mail John Bridges: 703/726-0188, TPBackpack@patc.net

Trailhead

The heavy rains in the latter part of June didn't damage as many trails as it could have. Thanks to the extended period over which the rain fell and to the many erosion-control devices installed by overseers and trail crews over the years, trail damage was limited. Let's hope the rest of summer and the hurricane season are kind to us.

Heidi Forrest, PATC trails coordinator, reminds the trails community to submit outstanding work reports by the end of September for our annual report to partners. The volunteer hours you contribute serve for more than personal satisfaction.

Hoodlums Finish AT Relo

On their worktrip in July the SNP North District Hoodlums put the finishing touches on the relocation of the AT on Hogback Mountain. Another 20 buckets of dirt were added to the tread, making a total of 64 buckets of dirt moved from the Piney River area to improve the new trail on Hogback. "Master blazer" Jon Rindt and his able assistant, Steve Osbrach, completed the marking of the new trail section while the rest of us closed off the old section of trail and said goodbye to the unsightly cell phone tower that AT hikers will no longer see. Then, with a "ribbon cutting ceremony" at both ends of the relocation, we dedicated the new trail section with a bottle of champagne and much picture taking.

Everyone agreed that by this time next year it will be hard to see where the old trail section was. Finishing the project by mid-day, most of the Hoodlums had time in the afternoon to visit their own trail sections for a little weeding and waterbar cleaning. Then in the evening we all met up again for a BBQ dinner at Indian Run Maintenance Hut to celebrate the completion of the relocation project. Three Hoodlums, Wayne Limberg, Dave Nebhut, and Steve Osbrach, deserve a lot of credit for having done the majority of work on this project, starting with the Shenandoah Trail Crew in May, and then helping to finish the project on Hoodlums' worktrips. Also, hats off to the NPS staff for pushing and persevering over 5 years to get the go-ahead so we could accomplish this relocation of the AT.

SNP South Side Trails

DM Pete Gatje has found a great new overseer to replace Larry Baldwin on the lower Gap Run and Rocky Mount Trail sections. Her name is Claire Whitenack and she is a recent UVA graduate. Claire is so enthusiastic that she wants to join Dave Feller's PATC summer work crew in mid-August. Pete is impressed that she attained a perfect verbal SAT score before entering UVA. One minor problem may be that she plans to thru-hike the AT starting in February, so he may have to ask some of the other overseers to help out on her trail sections until she returns.



Hogback Relocation Ceremony

Two Projects For Blue and White

The Blue and White Crew began two projects in July. Alpha Squad headed to the lower trailhead of the Buck Hollow Trail, where they started construction of a new stream crossing across the Thornton River. The old crossing was still intact, but deep water on the Thornton tended to make it unusable after moderate rainstorms. President of the Canadian Chapter of the B&W Crew, Kurt Fisher, was able to fly in for the occasion, and aided Patrick, Uli, and Melanie in Saturday's efforts.

Squad Zeta headed south to the Bearfence Rock Scramble, where they began a tread rehab project on the AT. Hal Hallett headed the locust-harvesting operation while other crew members cut new sidehill and installed a variety of industrial-grade erosion-control devices. Ridgerunner John Hedrick joined the group for lunch. After vittles, Snow and Holland donned chaps and launched their twilight blowdown and snipe hunt.

Saturday evening found the crew reunited on the Pinnacles lawn, grilling burgers and mulling the enduring mysteries (whither the Barn?, whence the "fanny"?).

Rock Creek Recovery

As some of you might have read, D.C. had a touch of stormy weather in late June. Metro stations and government buildings were flooded, there were widespread power failures and more than a few autos became rather expensive rafts as rapidly rising streams overtopped their banks. Rock Creek Park was not spared. Stretches of Beach Drive remained closed into July and several trails were damaged by the heavy rains. PATC overseers leapt into action and checked their trails soon afterward, clearing blowdowns, cleaning water-

See Trailhead, page 17



Photo by Jon Rindt

Hoodlums Trail Crew open the AT relocation on Hogback Mountain in SNP North District. After many hours of work this year, crew celebrated with a ribbon cutting and a few sips of Champagne.

bars, and reporting significant damage. Thanks to their efforts and those of the Park Service, the impact of the floods on our trails was minor.

Several courageous volunteers braved the July heat on a Saturday morning to continue our ongoing work on the Whitehaven Trail. Overseer Jack Everett and Ranger Ken Ferebee led the Rock Creek Trail Crew as they installed new waterbars and checkdams, repaired those damaged in June's deluge and laid down new fill. Thanks to all who came out and assisted us.

Mutton Hollow District

During their May, June, and July monthly work trips to the Vining Tract, tract crew members, who are also overseers of the various trails in the Mutton Hollow District, devoted over 100 hours to the five miles of trails within their jurisdiction. Numerous blow-downs were cleared and a frontal assault was launched on the weed-choked trails. Among those who participated were District Manager Hugh Robinson, Lauren Lang, Marilyn Stone, Ken and Pam Williams, Dave and Karen Pugh, Steve Weiss, Amy Crumpton, Roseann Freese, Jim Denham, and Andy Johnson. The overseers teamed up to work the trails, attacking those that were in most need of attention. Trails worked on over the three trips were Andy's Overlook, Cliff, Perimeter, Meadow, Boxwood, Conley-Morris, Mutton Top, Mountain Laurel, Chimney, Conley-Wineberry, Elijah's, the CCC Road, and Vining. The acquisition from the tool room of two power weeders (thanks Heidi) made a big difference during the July trip - the weeds were ugly.

On a somber note, long time member of the crew, Paul Roberts, died of heart failure on July 11. Paul was the crew's "Mr Reliable." He would start the fire for cooking crew meals, assist the cook by stirring the pot, flip the pancakes, roll up his sleeves to wash the dishes, cut firewood, and jump to help wherever he could. In addition to the many hours he contributed to cabin construction and maintenance on the tract, he will be remembered for his untiring efforts in relocating the long-lost survey pins that demarcate the boundary of the Vining Tract and in constructing the Boxwood Trail. The crew also lost the services of Ken Williams for what we hope will be a limited time. Shoulder surgery to correct the results of a long-ago bike accident have required Ken to be placed on the injured reserve list.



Photo by Richard Stromberg

Somehow avoiding predicted thunderstorms, the Cadillac Crew constructed sidehill tread through a difficult rocky section of the Millrace Trail near Shockey's Knob.

The crew also thanks Larry Lang and Frank Biasioli who attended the work weekends but focused their efforts on the construction of Butternut Cabin which is intended, upon completion, to become a cabin for use by cabin and trail overseers working on the property.

Proceed With Caution

Heavy rains in spring and early summer did considerable damage to the Broad Hollow Trail in SNP. The tropical storm season could cause additional damage. Hikers should be careful traversing the 150-foot damaged section near the second stream crossing until we are able to repair what is described as passable with caution.

Millrace Trail Nears Completion

Not wanting to get trapped by high water like earlier this year, the Cadillac Crew started the July 22/23 work trip constructing the Millrace Trail with some concern over the predicted heavy downpours. The downpours didn't happen and the thankful crew was able to construct sidehill tread through some difficult rock fields. The Millrace Trail will be part of a 7-mile loop hike (one of DM Walt Smith's favorites) that includes the High Rock Trail and a section of the Tuscarora Trail past the Shockey's Knob Shelter in West Virginia, just north of the VA/WVA state line. The trail is

blazed and hikeable even though a couple more work trips are needed to finish tread work. The yellow-blazed trail is accessible from the Sleepy Creek WMA parking area at coordinates H-14 on PATC Map L.

AT Thru-Hiker Statistics

As of July 15 this year, an estimated 1150 northbound thru-hikers departed the southern terminus at Springer Mountain. This represents 18 percent fewer than started last year and it appears that less than 10 percent dropped out at or before Neals Gap, the first "out of the woods" way point.

Through June, 694 thru-hiker permits were issued in SNP. Harpers Ferry recorded 622 northbound thru-hikers so far, which is 4 percent fewer than at this date last year. For the first time, more than half of those who started at Springer Mountain have made it to Harpers Ferry. And, believe it or not, 5 had already reached Katadin, the northern terminus by this date. Statistics courtesy of Laurie Potteiger from ATC and SNP's Shawn Green.

Please send any interesting tale, technical advice, individual or group accomplishments, and trail maintenance questions to Trailhead, c/o Jon Rindt, 621 Skyline Forest Drive, Front Royal, VA 22630 or to jk_rindt@adelphia.net.

Can Your Skills Help the IT Committee?

Last Fall, PATC purchased new computer hardware and is now focusing upon redesigning its Web site. The IT Committee divided the project into two areas: (1) Web site redesign (front end) and (2) Web-enabled databases (back end).

For the front end, Wes Allen of Charlottesville, Va., volunteered to design a new Web site on which all of PATC's text content will hang. Recently, Wes completed the design of a home page/index prototype that is now being reviewed by the committee.

For the back end, Matt Novinger, from the local D.C. area, volunteered to begin the process of moving PATC's current Access databases into a more Web-friendly database. Matt's initial work is displayed for members who now see a daily snapshot of cabin rentals on the PATC Web site. His work has resulted in a significant increase to cabin rentals, increasing club revenues.

To attack PATC's large membership database, Matt will focus on writing Java script to begin moving its information into a database that can be manipulated over the internet. For several months, PATC has solicited volunteers to help Matt in this effort, but response from members having the necessary Java programming skills has been discouraging. If you have such skills

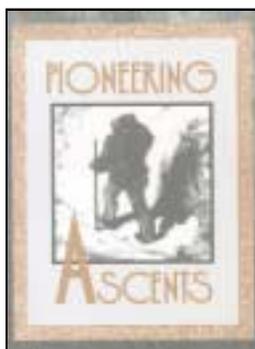
and wish to volunteer, please contact Matt at mnovinger@gmail.com.

Matt also is in charge of day-to-day operations of PATC's local network at headquarters. But this added responsibility takes too much of his time from his future-oriented Web database work. Accordingly, PATC has decided to seek professional help on its day-to-day network maintenance from an outside IT individual or vendor. If any PATC member would like to be considered for such work, or knows of an IT company (especially if you or the company would consider a discount from market rates), please inform Steve Sharp, Chair, IT Committee at SteveITPlanning@comcast.net.

Of course, as PATC spends money to engage professional IT services, less is available for other PATC efforts. The IT Committee hopes it can continue to redesign its Web site using solely volunteer efforts. However, unless people or contacts with IT companies can provide the necessary support for the project, PATC will have to consider spending more money to meet its needs by moving the PATC Web site into the 21st century.

Any help is always appreciated. □

—Bruce Glendenning, Vice President -
Operations, bglendenning@yahoo.com



Overstock Book Special

Take advantage of our mistake! You can for a short time purchase "Pioneering Ascents" for only \$5.00. Virginia sales

tax, plus shipping charges still apply. Come by headquarters to save the shipping costs, or purchase this item online. Go to www.patc.net, or call 703/242-0315, ext. 19.

Help wanted, from page 20

GREAT FALLS PARK, VIRGINIA – MAP D
Ric Francke, 571/436-7801
fbfrancke@aol.com

River Trail
Ridge Trail to Warning Sign (1.5 miles)

BULL RUN OCCOQUAN TRAIL
Dave Fellers, 703/560-2171
Fellers_2000@excite.com
Bull Run Occoquan Trail
Route 28 Parking to Little Rocky Run (1.5 miles)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA – MAP N
Alex Sanders, 703/465-8140
yargtac@yahoo.com
Whitehaven Trail
Glover Archbold Trail to Wisconsin Ave
(1.1 miles)

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Trail Patrol presents Leave No Trace Trainers Course October 2006

This course is designed to enhance your understanding of Leave No Trace practices and ethics and to develop your confidence in teaching others about Leave No Trace. Through activities and experience, and both formal and informal discussions, you will be challenged to develop your LNT skills and ethics. This is a fun class where all have a part in demonstrating the choices that can be made to minimize our impact on the land and our resources. It is hoped that graduates of this class will be willing to make LNT presentations to community groups when and if their schedules permit.

The course is Saturday - Sunday, Oct. 14-15 at the Pinnacles Research Station Cabin in the Central District of SNP. Cost: \$35.00 for PATC Members, \$50.00 for Non-Members (Join PATC and get the member price! Cost of the cabin is included with your fee, as well as Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast.) Registration: Forms are available through the Trail Patrol/LNT page of the PATC Web site at www.patc.net or contact Mark Holland (TPLNT@patc.net) or 540/636-3639 (mornings only). Send payment with registration form to: PATC, LNT Trainers Course, 118 Park Street, SE, Vienna, VA 22180-4609. Please include your e-mail address on the check. □

POTOMAC APPALACHIAN

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Wanted — Paid

IT Network Administrator/Maintenance

PATC needs an IT company or individual to monitor PATC's IT network (eight workstations and one server located at headquarters). Duties include: Responding to network problems as they arise; keeping network "in tune" — e-mail spam sometimes clogs PATC's system; insure anti-virus protection and Microsoft patches are up to date. Many service aspects can be handled by the IT Administrator remotely. Payment terms negotiable. Contact Steve Sharp at SteveITPlanning@comcast.net. □

Be a giver, not a taker!

Volunteer programmers needed to design and build Web applications. Willing to donate time writing PHP, Perl, SQL, and Java code? Current projects are: 1.) expanding Web-based cabin reservations and 2.) creating Web interfaces for internal databases. Interested? E-mail Matt Novinger at mnovinger@patc.net

We're Looking for a Few Good Volunteers!

Would you be interested in helping to restore an important part of PATC's history? Well, if you are, we need you! Back in 1940 and 1941, the Civilian Conservation Corps and PATC built the Rocky Run Shelter along the AT near Lambs Knoll in central Maryland. This classic shelter, which has served hikers for more than 60 years, has suffered from the ravages of time. Faced with a decision of whether or not to replace the shelter, PATC and its AT management partners decided to restore the old shelter as well as construct a new shelter nearby to handle the increased volume of hikers. Restoration work should commence in late summer or early fall. We have already recruited a small but enthusiastic crew to restore the old shelter. Would you like to join them? If so, please contact President Tom Johnson at president@patc.net.

SEEKING HIKING OR WALKING PARTNER for Fairfax, Fauquier, or Rappahannock Counties. Dona Lynette Stewart, 703/691-1387 home, 703/570-5551 cell.

CABIN RESERVATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We need help on the cabin reservations desk on weekday evenings and Thursday and Friday during the daytime. If you think you're the person to help us out please call, or just come by Headquarters or call Pat Fankhauser 703/242-0693, Ext. 17, Tuesday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Make a difference, call today. Earn your volunteer qualification of being able to rent a cabin earlier than the public. It's a real handy benefit to have in the spring and fall.

PATC Swap Meet

Notices are published free of charge for PATC members only. PATC cannot vouch for any of the advertised items. No commercial advertisement or personal notices unrelated to hiking will be accepted. Deadline for inclusion is the first day of the month preceding issuance of the newsletter. Notices will be run for three months, at the discretion of the editor, unless we are otherwise advised. □

FOUND CONTACT LENSES, Pair of contact lenses in a black and white case at Conley Cabin on Saturday, April 8. Contact Hugh Robinson 703/525-8726

FOR SALE: Cleaning out the gear closet! Lowe Alpine Cornice 40 pack (\$40 OBO), LL Bean pack large day pack (\$40 OBO), backpacking espresso maker (\$10 OBO), 2 MSR Dromedary bags (\$15 for both OBO). For more information contact: Ben Fernandez (3_ferns@adelphia.net).

HIKING PARTNERSHIPS

CAMPING EXPEDITION PARTNER

Six weeks in summer 2006 to western National Parks. Leisurely day hikes to alpine areas from pickup truck camper. Esthetics, not record-setting. Share expenses. (In 2005, six weeks, seven Natl. Parks, 9,000 miles, total cost for two people — not each, was \$2,100.) Contact: Grant Olson, Waynesboro, Pa. (owlie1@pa.net) 717/765-4228.

Trail, Shelter, and Corridor Overseers / Monitors Needed

CORRIDOR MONITOR OPENINGS

Tom Lupp, 301/271-7340
tlupp@erols.com

Wilson Gap -VA - PATC Map 7
Duke Hollow -VA - PATC Map 8
Ashby Gap South -VA - PATC Map 8

MARYLAND SHELTER CREW
Henry Horn, 301/498-8254
ATHike@aol.com

OPEN TRAILS - CONTACT THE DISTRICT
MANAGER FOR THE SECTION THAT INTERESTS YOU.

PENNSYLVANIA MAPS 2-3, 4, J, & K

Opportunity to work long hours with no pay or benefits. Generous allowance of blisters, stinging/biting insects, and poisonous plants. Little or no supervision. Work hours optional. Location somewhere on the Tuscarora Trail.

Pete Brown, 410/343-1140
peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net

Appalachian Trail - Co-Overseer
US 30/Caledonia SP to Rocky Mountain (2.5 miles)

PA Tuscarora Trail [J] - Co-Overseer(s)
[4WD required]

Hemlock Road to Mountain Rd (4.9 miles)
PA Tuscarora Trail [J] - Co-Overseer
Bill Miller Trail to Cowpens Rd (4.7 miles)
PA Tuscarora Trail [J] - Co-Overseer
Cowans Gap State Park to Lincoln Trail (4.3 miles)

HARPERS FERRY / ASHBY GAP AT & BB - MAP 7 & 8

Chris Brunton, 703/924-0406
trailbossbtc@msn.com

Appalachian Trail

High Rock to Sand Spring (1.4 mile)

Appalachian Trail

Fent Wiley Hollow to the Old Woods Road (1.0 miles)

Appalachian Trail

Trans Mountain Trail to Duke Hollow (1.3 mile)

Appalachian Trail

Duke Hollow to S. Glasser Cabin Trail (0.9 miles)

Appalachian Trail

S. Glasser Cabin Trail to Ashby Gap (1.6 miles)

ASHBY/POSSUMS AT/BB [RTE. 50 TO SNP] - MAP 8, 9

Lloyd Parriott, 540/622-2743

laparriott@hotmail.com

Barking Dog Trail

AT to Barking Dog Spring/Rte 604 (0.34 miles)

SNP NORTH DISTRICT BLUE-BLAZED - MAP 9

Peter Harris, 540/349-2595

peter.harris@lmco.com

Dickey Ridge Trail

MP 2.1 to Snead Farm Road (2.6 miles)

Piney Branch Trail (lower)

Power line to Hull School Trail (2.2 miles)

Pole Bridge Link Trail

Piney Branch Trail to Keyser Run Fire Road (1 mile)

Lower Jeremys Run Trail

8th Ford of Jeremys Run to W Park Boundary (3.5 miles)

SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZED [NORTH END] - MAP 10

Dan Dueweke, 703/266-3248

danjan3@cox.net

New overseer opportunities coming available soon. Choice trails rich in Shenandoah history. Don't miss this rare opportunity to stake your claim.

Robertson Mountain Trail - Co-Overseer

Old Rag Fire Rd. to Weakley Hollow Fire Rd. (2.4 miles)

SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZED [SOUTH END]- MAP 10

stevepaul@yahoo.com

Laurel Prong Trail

AT to Fork Mountain Trail (2.8 miles)

SNP SOUTH AT - MAP 11

Don White, 804/795-2914

tribldr@comcast.net

Appalachian Trail - Co-Overseer

Swift Run Gap to Hightop Parking Area (1.3 miles)

Appalachian Trail - Co-Overseer

Frazier Discovery Trail to Loft Mt. Camp Store (1.1 miles)

SNP South Blue-Blazed - Map 11

Pete Gatje, 434/361-1309

PJGATJE@aol.com

Gap Run Trail (lower)

Rt 628 Access Trail to Gap Run (0.8 mile)

Rocky Mount Trail (lower)

Summit of Rocky Mount to Gap Run (2.0 miles)

TUSCARORA CENTRAL- MAP L

Walt Smith, 540/678-1043

wsmith@visuallink.com

Millrace Trail

High Rock Parking Area to Tuscarora Trail (1.4 miles)

Frye Path Trail

at The Pinnacle (0.4 miles)

Laurel Run Trail

at The Pinnacle (0.5 miles)

Rock Cave Trail and Overlook

at The Pinnacle (0.1 miles)

Tuscarora South - Map F, G, 9

Rick Rhoades, 540/477-3247

Rrhoades@shentel.net

Tuscarora Trail

Sherman Gap to Veach Gap (3.1 miles)

Tuscarora Trail

Veach Gap to Morgan Rd. / Massanutten split (1 mile)

Tuscarora Trail

Morgan Rd. / Massanutten split to US 340 (5.5 miles)

Massanutten South - Map H

Tate Heuer, 202/255-6055

tate@wth2.com

Massanutten Mt. South Trail

Pitt Spring to Morgan Run Trail (1.4 m FR 65)
(3.3 miles)

Massanutten Mt. South Trail

Morgan Run Trail (1.4 m FR 65) to Fridley Gap
(2.3 miles)

Suburban Maryland - Map D

Liles Creighton, 410/573-0067

kb3jmf@comcast.net

Cabin John Trail

Seven Locks Road to River Road (.5 mile)

Cabin John Trail

Bradley Boulevard to Democracy Boulevard (1.5 miles)

Goldmine Loop Trail

Tavern to Tavern (3.2 miles)

Woodland Trail

Gold Mine Loop to Anglers Spur (.7 mile)

Valley Trail

Gold Mine Loop to Anglers Spur (0.6 miles)

River Trail

Gold Mine Trail to Towpath (1 mile)

See Help Wanted, page 18



The Potomac Appalachian

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Vienna, VA 22180-4609

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